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SUBJECT USIA Firm Faces Serious Financial Difficulty

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The USIA construction firm Allgemeine Baugesellschaft A. Porr A.G., Vienna IV, is in such serious financial difficulties that the Building and Construction Department of USIA is considering a plan to close the firm. If this step is taken, the equipment and some of the workers from A. Porr A.G. will be transferred to other firms administered by the Building and Construction Department of USIA.

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A. Porr A.G. has received no new contracts for the past four months, and has only four weeks' work remaining on a contract amounting to 600,000 schillings.* Some engineers, draftsmen and supervisors have already been dismissed, among them employees of more than twenty years' standing. It is rumored that the Soviet director of the firm will be sent to the USSR in the near future.

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Comment: The firm's failure to obtain contracts is a result of the Austrian Government's policy against dealing with USIA concerns until they have made the required payments to the Austrian social insurance fund.

> This document is hereby regisded to CONFIDENTIAL in apportance with the letter of 16 October 1073 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States. Next Review Date: 2008

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